

Please cancel claims 1-65, without prejudice.

Please add new claims 66-83.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-65. (Cancelled)

66. (New) A conjugate comprising:

an annexin; and

a N_xS_y chelating compound, wherein x is an integer from 2-4 and y is 1-4, or a N_4 chelating compound.

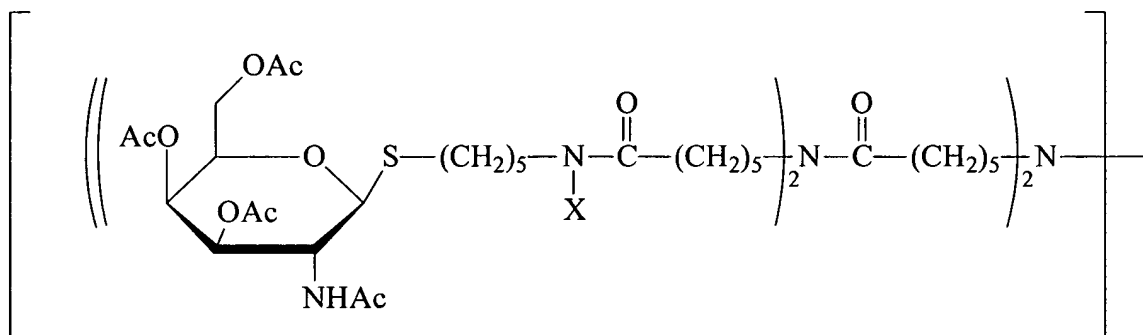
67. (New) The conjugate of claim 66, wherein the conjugate further comprises a hexose moiety recognized by a mammalian liver receptor, wherein the hexose is conjugated to the annexin directly or via the chelating compound and the chelating compound is conjugated to the annexin directly or via the hexose moiety.

68. (New) The conjugate of claim 67, wherein the hexose moiety comprises a cluster containing at least three hexose residues connected in a branched configuration, and wherein the cluster is conjugated via a single point of attachment to the annexin.

69. (New) The conjugate of claim 68, wherein the hexose residues are independently selected from the group consisting of galactose, mannose, mannose 6-phosphate, N-acetylglucosamine, pentamannosyl phosphate, glucose, N-galactosamine, N-acetylgalactosamine, thioglycosides of galactose, D-galactosides and glucosides.

70. (New) The conjugate of claim 69, wherein the hexose residue is N-acetylgalactosamine.

71. (New) The conjugate of claim 70, wherein the hexose residue is N-acetylgalactosamine, and wherein the cluster comprises:



wherein X is H or CH₃.

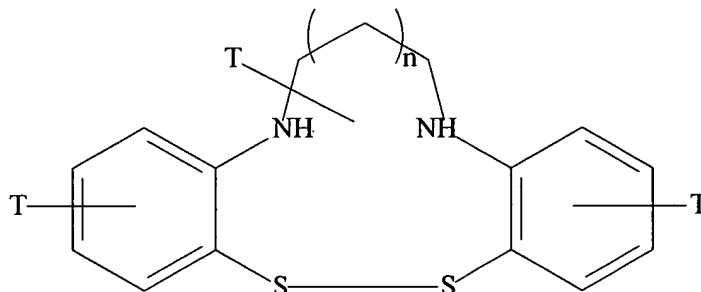
72. (New) The conjugate of claim 66 or 67, wherein the annexin is annexin V.

73. (New) The conjugate of claim 66 or 67, wherein the chelating compound comprises a N₄ chelating compound.

74. (New) The conjugate of claim 66 or 67, wherein the chelating compound comprises a N₃S chelating compound.

75. (New) The conjugate of claim 66 or 67, wherein the chelating compounds comprises a N₂S₂ chelating compound.

76. (New) The conjugate of claim 75, wherein the chelating compound has the following structure:



wherein T is H, CH₃ or a functional group for conjugating an annexin or a hexose moiety and n is 0 or 1.

77. (New) The conjugate of claim 67, wherein the conjugate has the following configuration:

annexin – hexose – chelating compound.

78. (New) The conjugate of claim 67 wherein the conjugate has the following configuration:

annexin – chelating compound – hexose.

79. (New) The conjugate of claim 66 or 67, wherein the conjugate further comprises a linker recognized by a liver enzyme such that the linker is enzymatically cleavable.

80. (New) The conjugate of claim 66 or 67, wherein the conjugate further comprises a cleavable linker which is selected from the group consisting of monosaccharides, polysaccharides, polyamino acids, hydroxyalkyl acrylamides, polyethylene glycol based hydrophilic polymers, biodegradable polymers containing an ether or ester linkage, dextran or hemisuccinyl esters.

81. (New) The conjugate of claim 66 or 67, wherein the conjugate further comprises a radionuclide complexed by the chelating compound.

82. (New) The conjugate of claim 81, wherein the radionuclide is selected from the group consisting of Cu-64, Ga-67, Ga-68, Re-186, Re-188, Cu-67, Tc-99m, Tc-94, Ru-95 and In-111.

83. (New) The conjugate of claim 82, wherein the radionuclide is technetium-99m.